LTC Brendan Gallagher is a native of Columbia, MD. He was commissioned as an Infantry officer via ROTC at Johns Hopkins University in 2001.

LTC Gallagher attended the Infantry Officer Basic Course and Ranger School in 2001. His first assignment was as a rifle platoon leader and then company XO in B Co, 1-506th Infantry Regiment, Camp Greaves, Korea.

In 2003, he was assigned to C Co, 3rd Ranger Battalion where he served as platoon leader and deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan. In 2005, he attended the Infantry Captains Career Course where he was recognized as distinguished honor graduate.

He was next assigned to 1-5 CAV, 2ABCT, 1st Cavalry Division at Fort Hood, TX in 2006 where he served as Battalion Assistant S-3, and then assumed command of B Co for the majority of a 15-month deployment to Baghdad during the Iraq surge. He was then assigned to the 75th Ranger Regiment in early 2009 where he served as LNO and Regimental Assistant S-3, prior to assuming command of Regimental HHC and deploying multiple times to Afghanistan.

From 2011-2012 he attended the Army Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, KS, where he received the Marshall award as the distinguished graduate. He was next assigned to 6-4 CAV, 3IBCT, 1st Infantry Division, where he served as Squadron S3, and then served as Brigade XO during a 9-month deployment to Afghanistan. Following redeployment, he was selected for the Advanced Strategic Planning and Policy Program (ASP3) and conducted doctoral studies at Princeton.

In 2017 he was assigned to the Commander's Action Group at the Maneuver Center of Excellence at Fort Benning, GA, and later served as XO to the Commanding General.

Lieutenant Colonel Gallagher's awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal w/2OLC, Meritorious Service Medal w/2OLC, Combat Infantryman's Badge, Expert Infantryman's Badge, Master Parachutist Badge, Pathfinder Badge, Air Assault Badge, German Armed Forces Proficiency Badge, and the Ranger Tab.

He holds a B.A. and M.A. in International Relations from Johns Hopkins, and an M.A. and Ph.D. in Public Affairs from Princeton.